

REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended the claims to remove improper multiple dependencies and have amended the priority information. No prohibited new matter has been introduced by these amendments as the amendments are supported by the original claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a Continuation or Divisional application on the subject matter cancelled by way of this amendment.

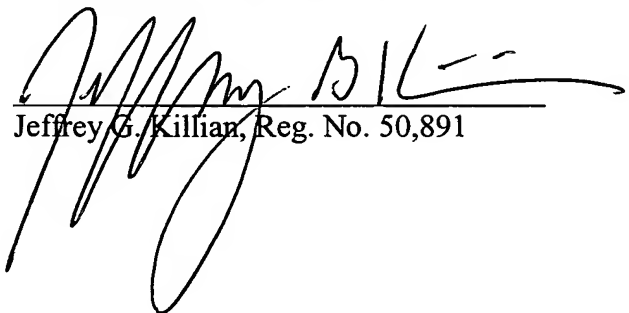
Claims 1-16 are pending. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the claims as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes.

CONCLUSION

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP



Jeffrey G. Killian, Reg. No. 50,891

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CUSTOMER NO. 55694
DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209
Tel: (202) 842-8800; Fax: (202) 204-0289